

Remarks

Claim 1 is amended by replacing the variable atoms A and E with carbon atoms in the formula, and deleting references to A and E in the body of the claim. The final limitation, wherein the substituents "confer antiviral activity" has been deleted.

Claims 2, 4 and 6 are amended to remove references to the variable atoms A and E.

The spelling of phosphoramidate in claim 9 has been corrected.

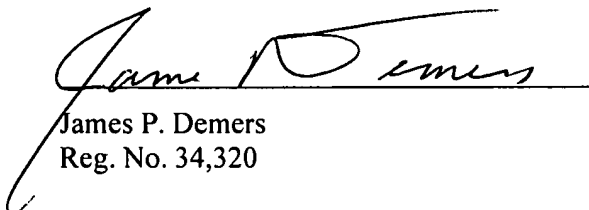
Claims 12-31 are cancelled.

Upon entry of the amendments, claims 1-11 will be pending.

The amendments do not introduce new matter. By limiting variable atoms A and E to carbon, Applicants have effectively elected a species, in anticipation of what would likely be a restriction requirement. The final limitation of claim 1 was introduced in an Article 19 amendment, and removal of the limitation restores the claim to its scope as originally filed. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of original claim 1 in continuing or divisional applications.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 7, 2005


James P. Demers
Reg. No. 34,320

BROWN RAYSMAN MILLSTEIN FELDER & STEINER LLP
900 Third Avenue
New York, New York 10022
(212) 895-2000